

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Replace the paragraph beginning on Page 1, line 13, with the following amended paragraph:

The invention proposes an apparatus for which the defects do not cause ~~icon siderable~~ inconsiderable losses of tracking by using other measures than those disclosed in said US patent.

Replace the paragraph beginning on Page 3, line 3, with the following amended paragraph:

The FIG. 2 shows in more detail the radial guidance device 50 in which provisions are made for avoiding the bad effects of the defects which may be present on the data carrier. This device 50 includes a PID controller 60. This controller applies a control signal to the actuator device 20. The functions of this controller are to provide a gain (proportional) action, an integral action and a differential action, which are well known in the state of the art. The input signal of this controller is an error signal representing the guidance error of the laser beam. This signal is either the signal TRr or the output signal of an emulator 62. The choice of the signal is determined by the position of a switch 64 controlled by a defect detector 66. A comparator 69 comparing the

signal at the output of the switch 64 with the "0" value reminds one that it must be kept constant with a value near "0". For improving the behavior of the emulation, a predictor device 71 is provided. Its output signal is combined with the output signal of the emulator 62 by a ~~substractor~~ subtractor 74 for forming an error signal used for the duration for which a defect is detected. The defect detector ~~analyses~~ analyzes the signal at the output of said defect ~~detectors~~detector. A defect is declared when the light intensity drops rapidly (<1.5 ms) to approximately 75% of its nominal value.